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REPUTED MOBSTER SAYS CIA WIRETAPPED HIM
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BY CHARLES J. ABBOTT

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Attorneys for Anthony "Big Tuna" Accardo say the reputed Chicago mobster "has reasonable grounds to believe" the CIA or the California attorney general's office may have used wiretaps against him.

In documents filed Thursday in U.S. District Court, Accardo's attorneys said a check of government records was inadequate and should be extended to include inquiries to the CIA and the California attorney general.

"Mr. Accardo has reasonable grounds to believe that he has been the subject of illegal surveillance by these agencies," attorneys Michael Madigan and Carl Walsh said.

Walsh and Madigan raised the allegation in arguing Accardo should not be ordered to testify before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. The Senate passed a contempt of Congress resolution Feb. 23 against Accardo because he repeatedly refused to talk about organized crime at a subcommittee hearing last year.

A federal judge now is being asked to order Accardo to testify. If Accardo refuses, he could be sent to jail indefinitely.

Accardo told the subcommittee he believed its inquiries might be based on illegal wiretaps.

"We don't use electronic surveillance, period," said director Glen Craig of the California attorney general's division of law enforcement.

A subcommittee spokesman said he could not comment on the new documents, but said, "We're entirely confident that our questions of Mr. Accardo have come from independent sources and are not in any way based on wiretap information."

Accardo has been called "the most capable" leader of organized crime in Chicago history. He allegedly got his start as a bodyguard for mobster Al Capone.

A dozen state, local and federal government agencies have been checked and only the FBI reported electronic surveillance. Accardo's attorneys said the review was not satisfactory.